

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

Howard County, MD

Welcome!

School is around the corner! As the summer winds down and you enjoy the remainder of your vacation, I wanted to take this moment to share the latest edition of my newsletter highlighting upcoming events and ways to stay engaged in our community. For more up-to-the-minute information, "[Like](#)" me on Facebook or "[Follow](#)" me on Twitter ([@CalvinBallTeam](#)). You can also register for District 2 updates through [NotifyMeHoward](#).

Have questions, comments, concerns, or ideas on how I can be doing better to serve Howard County? I invite you to call my office at 410-313-2001 or email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov

If you'd like to register for this newsletter, email "subscribe" to cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be to add you to my distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

Inside this issue:

Shop MD Tax-Free Week	1
LR Village Center Urban Renewal	1
70th annual HoCo Fair	2
Enchanted Forest 60th Birthday	2
Cul-de-sac Grants	3
Parent Advocacy Mtg	4
Project Opportunity	5
CA's Pre-Budget Public Forum	7

Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week!

Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week, which begins the second Sunday of August to the following Saturday! That means qualifying apparel and footwear \$100 or less, per item, are exempt from our MD (6%) state sales tax. Accessory items are not included. This year, the Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week is Sunday, **August 9– Saturday, August 15, 2015**. An [FAQ](#) is available online.



Girls Driving for a Difference

Middle-schoolers are invited to come to Find Your Drive, a free design thinking & leadership workshop with girls driving for a difference, on **August 8, 10am-2pm!** Visit the **UMBC Training Center** in Columbia, but don't forget to RVSP [here](#). For more information, click [here](#).

Final Community Meeting for Long Reach Urban Renewal Plan

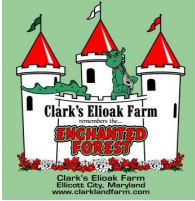
I want to thank our residents who have joined me, the Long Reach Village Board, our consultants, stakeholders, and our dedicated County staff who have worked with us to develop an Urban Renewal Plan for the Long Reach Village Center. Your feedback is vital as we work towards a new vision and future for our community.

There will be one final community meeting as we develop the Urban Renewal Plan. It will be held **Thursday, September 17, 2015, 7pm** at **Stonehouse**. Final concept plans will be presented and I invite you be a part of this continued community conversation about our vision for the future of our LR Village Center.



70th Annual Howard County Fair

Please join us as the Howard County Fair celebrates 70 years of farming history and entertainment for all ages! Enjoy lots of family fun as you peruse livestock exhibits, carnival rides and games, demonstrations, parades, contests, and more! The event will be held from **Saturday, August 8th** through **Saturday, August 15th** at the **Howard County Fairgrounds**, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd, West Friendship, MD 21794. For more information, [go online](#) or call 410-442-1022.



Enchanted Forest's 60th Goth Birthday Celebration

Come out and wish the Enchanted Forest a very happy birthday for its 60th Birthday Celebration! **Clark's Elioak Farm** will be hosting a ribbon-cutting on the anniversary of the Enchanted Forest's opening in 1955. This event will take place at the White Castle at the entrance to Enchanted Pine Tree Forest at Clark's Elioak Farm on **Saturday, August 15th**. For more details, please call **410-730-4049**.

Summertime Youth Activities — Community Athletic Program

Looking for something to do this summer? The Howard County Police Department is hosting its mobile Community Athletic Program (CAP) which includes a traveling recreation center that provides constructive activities for youth during the summer. The mobile unit consists of a traveling trailer filled with sports gear, games and video game equipment and is staffed by a school resource officers and other youth services officers. This year, the CAP will operate **Mondays (Talbot Springs Pool)**, **Tuesdays (Blandair Park)**, and **Fridays (North Laurel Community Center)**, **9am-5pm**, through **August 7th**. For more information, click [here](#).

2015 Expungement Fair

Mark your calendars—Iota Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Sorority, Inc., with the MD State Bar Association, will be conducting an Expungement Fair on **Saturday, September 19th 10am-4pm** at **Celebration Church** in Columbia. Volunteer attorneys at the expungement

fair will assist individuals with completing the paperwork required to get certain records of criminal events expunged (i.e. removed) from their legal records. Individuals able to clean up their legal records in this manner will no longer have to report those criminal

events on job, school, loan, housing, or other applications. This event is free and open to the public. Co-sponsors include: Howard County Councilmember Calvin Ball.



Columbia Archives is Moving!

On **August 22nd**, Columbia Archives will relocate to the new Columbia Association headquarters at **6310 Hillside Court**. In preparation for the move, the Archives will be closed during the month of August and will have limited access to their collection. Due to the move, they are not accepting any donations of materials until after relocation. If you have items you think would be of interest to them, please contact their office by calling **410-715-3103** or emailing Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.org.

Apply for the State Energy Efficient Programs

The Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development Low Income Energy Efficiency Programs are designed to help low-income Marylanders save money on utility bills; improve comfort, health, and safety of homes; and repair or

replace non-functioning heating systems by offering no cost energy efficiency upgrades. The Department is currently seeking eligible candidates for its State Energy Efficient programs.

For more information, call **1-855-583-8976** or [go online](#).



2015 Howard County Farmers' Markets Are Still Open!

Neighbors and food enthusiasts are invited out to purchase locally grown produce from area farmers! [Howard County Farmers' Market](#) remains in full swing and with convenient locations, shoppers can buy fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, baked goods and much more!

Howard County Library-Miller Branch (9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City)

Hours of Operation: Wednesdays 2-6pm; Season: Through November 11

Oakland Mills Village Center (5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Sundays 9am-1pm; Season: Through November 22

Howard County General Hospital (5755 Cedar Ln, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Fridays 2-6pm; Season: Through October 30

East Columbia Library Market (6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia)

Hours of Operation: Thursdays 2-6pm; Season: Through November 19

Ellicott City Old Town Farmers' (Uptown at the Win Bin and Midtown at the Little French Market)

Hours of Operation: Saturdays 9am-1pm; Season: Through October 31



Cul De Sac/Street Beautification Grants

The Long Reach and Oakland Mills Community Association are pleased to announce that funds are now available for street beautification on a first-come, first-serve basis. LRCA landscaping grants could provide funds up to \$200 for approved plans for the purchase of plant materials and provide coupons from local nurseries to help stretch your dollars.

Hurry – Application packets are available until **August 30**. Call **410-730-8113**.

OMCA Cul-de-sac Beautification grants of up to \$75 are available for up to 15 streets. There are also block party reimbursement

funds of up to \$25 available for up to 20 streets. Funds will be reserved based on availability once a request is received. Landscape proposals need to accompany the requests.

LR: For more details, call **410-730-8113**.

OM: For more details, email manager@oaklandmills.org or call **410-730-4610**.

Art of Howard County 2015

The Howard County Arts Council is now accepting submissions for *Art Howard County 2015*. The juror for will be Paula L. Phillips, Community Artist and Professor at the Maryland Institute College of Art. If you are eligible (+18 years of age; living, working, studying in Howard

County) to apply to this biennial, juried exhibit, please check for details for entry included in the prospectus and entry form, available for download on the ['Exhibits' page](#) of the Arts Council Website, for pick-up at the **Howard County Center for Arts**, or by mail by calling **410-313-2787** or

emailing info@hocoarts.org. The deadline is **11:59pm on Monday, August 31st, 2015**. Good luck!



CA's Lakefront Summer Festival



Enjoy great movies, concerts and much more during CA's Lakefront Summer Festival! The schedule includes free, family-friendly offerings nearly every evening of the week. A full schedule of the event can be found [online](#). Movies will be screened at **Lake Kittamaqundi** under the stars **Mondays and Fridays thru August 21**.

August 22-September 12, CA will show movies every **Friday & Saturday**. All showings begin at dusk (~ **8:30pm**). Concerts will be **Tuesdays-Thursdays & Saturday-Sunday**. Sunday concerts begin at **6:30pm**. All other concerts run **7:30-9:30pm**. Schedule is subject to change.

Collision Avoidance Training



The HCPD will be conducting Collision Avoidance Training (CAT) classes thru December. This is an advance defensive driving and vehicle control program for licensed teen driver's ages 16-20. This one day program (8.5 hours) is designed to provide drivers with the knowledge and understanding of vehicle dynamics and will provide practical

exercises that demonstrate how the vehicle responds in a given situation and how to regain control of the vehicle. Driving skills addressed include: evasive maneuvers, threshold/emergency braking, forward serpentine, cornering, backing, reverse serpentine and skid and off-road recovery. All classes will be held at the **James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center** in Marriottsville.

Students must operate their own vehicle and successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver in order to receive a certificate of completion. The cost is \$95. Sessions are: **August 22, September 19, October 17, November 21 and December 12.** For more details, please contact Jessica Beram at **410-313-3758** or email JBeram@howardcountymd.gov.

Hispanic Cultural Fair

Enjoy delicious ethnic foods, entertainment, artisan crafts, and children's activities at the Hispanic Cultural Fair, sponsored by the County's Department of Recreation and Parks! The event be hosted on **September 12th, 2015, 1-4pm** at the **North Laurel Community Center**. If interested in participating, either as a vendor or an entertainer, call **410-313-0459** for more information. To contact North Laurel Community Center, call **410-313-0390**.



Parent Advocacy: Finding Solutions to School Concerns

Join us **August 8th 10am-12pm** at **Celebration Church** in Maryland to learn valuable information on how to resolve school-related concerns. Representatives from Office of School Administration of HCPSS will share rights parents have and supports available to assist families with finding solutions in a timely & effective manner. Register [here](#).

Long Reach Flea Market



Looking to buy and sell your treasures? Visit the Long Reach Flea Market at the **Long Reach Village Center**! The event will take place on **September 19th 8am-12pm**! Each space costs \$20. Note: This event is NOT open to commercial vendors, political causes or candidates. For more information, please stop by **Stonehouse** or call **410-730-8113**.

Columbia BikeAbout

Mark your calendars and join Columbia Association's (CA) Columbia Archives for the free, fun, and informative annual Columbia BikeAbout! This tour will be held on **Saturday, September 26th 9:30am-1pm**, starting from **Downtown Columbia Lakefront**. The Columbia BikeAbout highlights the history of Columbia, as well as the extensive pathway system and open space that contributes to Columbia's high quality of life.

Pre-registration for the BikeAbout is encouraged, but not necessary. Registration can be done online [here](#). For more details, email Columbia.Archives@ColumbiaAssociation.org or call **410-715-6781**.



County Government Closings for Labor Day



All county government offices, libraries, courts, animal shelter and the landfill will be closed on **Monday, September 7th** in observance of the Labor Day holiday. There will be no trash, recycling or yard waste collection on Monday, and the County's [holiday "slide" schedule](#) will be in effect. Parking meters will not be free and all parking regulations and fees are in effect.

The Police, Fire and 9-1-1 Center remain open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For emergencies, call: 9-1-1; for non-emergency police matters, please call, **410-313-2200**. County offices will re-open at regular business hours on **Tuesday, September 8th**.

Oakland Mills Community Flea Market

Buy and sell your treasures at the Oakland Mills Community Flea Market on **Saturday, September 19th 9am-12pm**. Spaces must be reserved in advance and those participating must bring their own tables for selling items. Oakland Mills residents may purchase a space for \$10 and two spaces for \$15. NO commercial vendors will be permitted. The Flea Market will take place at the Oakland Mills Village Center at the Police Office Parking Lot.

For more details, contact Brigitta Warren, Event Coordinator. Call **410-730-4610** or e-mail events@oaklandmills.org.

The Roving Radish

The Roving Radish program promotes local farms and healthy eating by buying regionally grown food straight from the farm and preparing meal kits that make two dinners, each feeding four people. They are available for purchase to all HoCo residents and are offered at a discounted price to those in need. Volunteers are also needed to help prepare the meal kits at the old **Bushy Park Elementary School** in Glenwood; sign up [here](#). For more details, [go online](#) or contact James Zoller at jzoller@howardcountymd.gov.

Project Opportunity

Is entrepreneurship the right choice for you? Find out with Project Opportunity, a program facilitated by experts to offer free entrepreneur training for veterans. The Fall 2015 Anne Arundel/Howard County orientation session will be held **August 11th, 6:30pm** at the **Anne Arundel Community College Arnold Campus**. For more details or to register, [go online](#).

24th Annual Police Pace

DID YOU KNOW?

The Loan Closet of HoCo is a great resource for borrowing medical equipment for temporary use. There are no income restrictions. To ask about the Loan Closet, please call **410-740-1643 10am-noon, Monday, Wednesday, or Friday**. For more info, [go online](#).



Every September, the Howard County Police Foundation hosts the Police Pace, a 5K race and one-mile, fun walk and run at **Centennial Park in Columbia**. The goal of the event is to raise money for the families of Howard County officers killed or injured in the line of duty, as well as provide scholarships and support the Department with funding for special needs not met through the annual budget process. The 24th Annual Police Pace will take place on **September 13th, 2015**, starting from **8:30am**. For those interested, participants may run individually or as a team. Register [here](#). For more information, [go online](#).

World Food Passport



The World Food Passport program celebrates the wide range of restaurants, cuisine, and culture available in Howard County. After eating at a participating restaurant, diners can request one stamp in their passport. Once passport holders have one stamp in each of the six categories, they can enter a drawing to win a \$25 gift certificate. Drawings will be held **September 30th, December 31st, and March 31st (2016)**. For more information, [go online](#). Questions or concerns? Please contact Laura Smit at **410-715-3162** or International@ColumbiaAssociation.org.

Howard Community College Columbia Classic Grand Prix

Howard Community College's 28th Annual Columbia Classic Grand Prix will be held on **September 19th, 2015** from **9:30am to 4pm**! This fabulous equestrian event benefits the HCC Educational Foundation and will be held at **Marama Farm** in **Clarksville, MD**. Adult lawn tickets cost \$10; adult bleacher tickets cost \$15. Children 10 and under may enter at no cost, but tickets for the bleachers for children cost \$8. Tent seats are \$200. For more information about tickets and seating, click [here](#). For more Grand Prix information, please call **443-518-1970** or emailing her at kebeling@howardcc.edu.



Man-to-Man Prostate Support Group



Attend the Man-to-Man Prostate Support Group, a forum for men to find support and meet, share, and learn. Meetings are every **3rd Thursday** of the month from September through June, from **6:30 to 8:15pm**. Each meeting will take place at the **Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia MD, 21044**. For more information, please contact **Gary Scher** by either calling **202-253-1025** or emailing gscher@comcast.net. For accommodations to attend this event, or to request information in an alternate format, contact MD Access Point at **410-313-5980** or at map@howardcountymd.gov.

Save the Date—50+ Expo!

Back for its 17th consecutive year in a row, the 2015 50+ EXPO will feature 150+ vendors, exhibitors, life-enriching workshops, a living green fair, great food, and healthy aging seminars of interest to older adults, families, caregivers, care providers and professionals. On **Friday, October 16th**

9am -4pm, join the Department of Citizen Services for the 17th annual 50+ EXPO at **Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Rd in Columbia**. NEW: There will be a \$1 admission fee for all attendees over 18 years of age. The fee will be used to benefit the Vivian L. Reid

Community Fund, providing emergency financial assistance to older adults and adults with disabilities whose needs generally not covered by Medicare & Medical Assistance. For more info, call **410-313-6410** or click [here](#).



Oakland Mills Fall Festival



Join us **Saturday, October 3, 2015 11am-4pm** for the Oakland Mills Fall Festival! This event will be held at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia** and feature live musical entertainment for all ages, children's crafts, festival food, vendors, health screenings and much more! For more details, go [online](#), call **410-730-4610** or email events@oaklandmills.org.

Ellicott City ArtWalk 2015

Be a part of the Art Scene in Historic Ellicott City, MD! Come out on **October 10th 12-6pm** to Main Street in Historical Ellicott City and take part in Ellicott City ArtWalk 2015. This third annual event is FREE and open to the public where you can stroll and enjoy more than twenty artists' studios, galleries, and retail venues. Many styles of art will be showcased, including fine oil and watercolor paintings, metal and wood sculpture, mixed media, artistic jewelry, ceramics, and photography. Visitors can pick up a free "Passport" at any of the participating venue and getting it stamped from at least two locations in each "Region" qualifies for the chance to win a prize in the raffle. Easy park-and-ride with the free circulating ArtWalk Trolley! Artists who would like to display their artwork at this event, please contact david@StillLifeGallery.Net. For more information, [go online](#).

Settlement Downpayment Loan Program

Looking to buy a home or relocate in Howard County? Howard County Housing has invested \$400,000 to the Department's Settlement Downpayment Loan Program (SDLP) that will offer homebuyers a deferred second mortgage loan, to be used by those preapproved for settlement costs and downpayments. Buyers must agree to occupy the home as their primary residence. Interest rates are set at 2 percent below the first mortgage interest rate and repayment of the loans is deferred until resale, refinance or default.

Additional incentives such as loan forgiveness are available under the Workforce Initiative Loan product for homeowners who work in Howard County. Funds will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Homebuyers interested in applying for the program should contact a participating first mortgage lender to begin the application process. A list of approved lenders can be found on Housing's SDLP [website](#), call **410-313-6318** or email lphillips@howardcountymd.gov.

Small Business Accelerator Program

This program is geared towards anyone ready to take their business to the next level. Ideally, SBAP participants will have at least 3 years experience will revenues of \$250,000 or more and a minimum of two employees. However, all are encouraged to apply and will be seriously considered. Upon completion, participants will have: Learned latest strategies to grow & improve business; Developed a plan to gain market share and customer loyalty; Invested in both themselves and their business; Created a blueprint to grow their business in size and scale. SBAP is an **8-week** training and business course meeting every **Tuesday** beginning **September 29 6:30-8:30pm** at **Columbia Bank, 7168 Columbia Gateway Dr in Columbia**. Cost is \$50/session; or \$200 for entire series. Registration is through **September 15**. The kick-off event will be held on **September 24, 2015**.



Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below, you will find helpful links for parents and youth. I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors, and most importantly, your children.

- **4H Club:** For youth grades 3+. Meets **2nd Fridays, the Other Barn, 3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info.
- **Art Attack:** Creative after-school enrichment at **Columbia Art Center**. Meets **1st & 2nd Mondays**. Registration/fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.
- **Columbia Teen Center:** **410-992-3726**
- **Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee :** Meets **3rd Thursdays, 6:30-8pm**, The Youth & Teen Center, **The Other Barn**. Call **410-992-3726** or email CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org for more info.
- [Howard County Library](#)
- **Voices For Change:** Email Meg Mekelburg for more info MMekelburg7@verizon.net

READY Program

Restoring the Environment & Developing Youth (READY) is a program funded by Howard County and administered by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay with support from People Acting Together in Howard County (PATH). READY is designed to meet environmental and employment goals by working with

Howard County government to fund employment of young adults, aged 16-26 in building rain gardens throughout the county. Email the completed application to dtsusaki@allianceforthebay.org. For more information about the READY program, [go online](#). Questions or con-

cerns? Call **443-949-0575** or visit the Maryland office at **501 Sixth St. Annapolis, MD 21043**.



Pre-Budget Public Input Forum

CA's Board of Directors will hold a pre-budget public input forum on **Thursday, September 3 7:30pm** at **Slayton House** in the Wilde Lake Village Center. The forum will be hosted by the Board's Planning and Strategy Committee.; it will address the draft budgets for the next two-year budget cycle. All community stakeholders are welcome, including residents, representatives of village community associations, advisory committee members, and others! Speakers may provide written versions of their remarks, but must adhere to time limits. Testimony can also be provided via email at Board.Members@ColumbiaAssociation.org or by snail mail to **10221 Wincopin Circle, Columbia**. As of August 24, the CA's new address will be **6310 Hillside Ct. Suite 100, Columbia**. For more information about CA, [go online](#).

Larriland Farm's Pick Your Own



Come out to Larriland Farm to pick your own fruits and vegetables! Blueberry picking season will end soon, so don't miss out and stop by today. Red raspberries, thornless blackberries, yellow peaches, white peaches, and tomatoes are in season. For a complete list of the fruit harvest, click [here](#). For a complete list of the vegetable harvest, click [here](#). The last day for picking is **Sunday, November 8th**. If you miss the dates for picking your own, Larriland Farm offers fruits and vegetables in their Farm Markets as well. For more information, [go online](#) or call **410-442-2605** or **301-854-6110**.

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency that empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter & outreach services. They provide programs & services including 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter & Day Resource Center.

The Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at **6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044**. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit the Grassroots website [online](#) at The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.



Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession, and while HC may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance, so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:
<http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Free Financial Coaching!

MyBudgetCoach was launched by MakingChange in partnership with [Maryland CASH Campaign](#) and helps working families & individuals improve their ability to budget and make well-informed financial decisions. Understanding the importance of budgeting is generally recognized as the first step in successful financial planning. Participants meet with a trained volunteer coach once a month for 12 monthly sessions. Budgeting techniques, financial management and goal attainment strategies are included. Participants and coaches use on-line tools to track progress in real-time.

If interested in participating, please contact the MyBudgetCoach Relationship Manager, **Leslie Petak**, at petakl@makingchangecenter.org. MakingChange provides group seminars and personal coaching to teach people to manage their money and change their lives. Its programs are offered in schools, human service agencies and businesses. For more information, visit www.makingchangecenter.org.

Howard County Safety—Helpful Hints!



- *Experiencing an Emergency?* Dial 9-1-1
- *Want to report an incident, non-emergency?* Call 410-313-2200
- *Need to report drug activity?* Call 410-290-3784
- *Want to make an anonymous tip* (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email GangTips@howardcountymd.gov
- *Want to report gun crimes?* Call 410-313-7867 or email CToler@howardcountymd.gov.
- *Do you need Victim Assistance?* Call 410-313-3712 or email KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov
- *Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey?* Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment.
- *Looking to prevent Auto Theft?* Helpful tips are available [online](#).
- *Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.?* Call 410-313-2780, email animcontrol@howardcountymd.gov or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- *Interested in a Police Ride-Along?* Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- *Need a HCPD Spanish line?* Call 410-313-7807.
- *Interested in volunteering with the HCPD?* Call 410-313-2255
- *Interested in HCPD Recruitment?* Call 410-313-4273.
- *Want to start a Neighborhood Watch Program?* Contact your [local community resources officer](#).

Give the Gift of Independence!

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, as well as evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers may simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices, and

daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and we encourage you to bring your children along for a wonderful experience.



For more information, contact Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer, or Rosemary Noble at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email volunteer@neighborride.org.

"Guaranteed Ride Home"!



A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to

Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the MD Department of Transportation. To be eligible to participate in the

"Guaranteed Ride Home" program, commuters must register [online](#) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

Alzheimer's Support Group

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For more information on support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or go [online](#).

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents +62!

The HC Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll-free number: **1-800-506-5806**.

Recycling...Do's and Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, click [here](#) or call **410-313-6444**. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call **410-313-7678** or go [online](#).

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, [visit our website](#). If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, please email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2005**.

I Want to Hear From You!

As your Councilmember, it's my mission to engage with you and your community. Your testimony is always welcome as the Council considers legislation. You may testify in person or submit your testimony by email to Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov or fax it to **410-313-3297**.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**. You can view our calendar [here](#).

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
District 2
Email Me
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Phone: 410-313-2001
Fax: 410-313-3297

"Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."
~ Martin Luther King, Jr.



Howard County Council
District 2

Howard County, MD